

**U.S. Pat. Appl. Ser. No. 10/573,221
Attorney Docket No. 10191/4260
Reply to Office Action of April 16, 2009**

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the present application.

Listing of Claims:

1-10 (Canceled).

11. (Currently Amended) A method for evaluation and stabilization over time of classification results from a classification method which proceeds in computer-assisted fashion, the method comprising:

sensing, by sensors, objects to be classified ~~using sensors~~ over a period of time;
repeatedly classifying the objects, by a computer processor, using specific quality parameters for each object class;
increasing, by the processor, a value of a confidence parameter calculated from the quality parameters if a subsequent classification confirms a result of a previous classification;
decreasing, by the processor, the value of the confidence parameter if a subsequent classification does not confirm the result of a previous classification; and
generating, by the processor, a final classification result including the confidence parameters that have been increased or decreased in value.

12. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 11, wherein the increasing of the value is performed as a function of an absolute quality of the confidence parameter.

13. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 11, wherein the decreasing in the value is performed as a function of an absolute quality of the confidence parameter.

14. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 11, wherein an absolute quality of respective individual results of the classification method is included in at least one of the increase in the value of the respective confidence parameters, and the decrease in the value of the respective confidence parameter, in weighted fashion with reference to individual object classes.

15. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 11, further comprising:
limiting a permissible value range for the confidence parameters increased or decreased in value.

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16. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 11, further comprising:
evaluative analyzing the calculated confidence parameter to determine a final, detailed classification result.
17. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 16, further comprising:
evaluating an alternation of the classification results between specific object classes as a classification into a higher-order class than those object classes.
18. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 16, further comprising:
evaluating an alternation of the classification results between dissimilar object classes as a rejection of a classification of the object.
19. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 11, further comprising:
evaluating classification results of the classification method for objects in surroundings of a vehicle.
20. (Previously Presented) A computer-assisted vehicle information system,
comprising:
connection interfaces to vehicle sensor devices for sensing objects in surroundings of a vehicle; and
a control circuit configured to analyze and classify the sensed objects the control circuit configured to perform the following:
sensing objects to be classified using sensors over a period of time;
repeatedly classifying the objects using specific quality parameters for each object class;
increasing a value of a confidence parameter calculated from the quality parameters if a subsequent classification confirms a result of a previous classification;
decreasing the value of the confidence parameter if a subsequent classification does not confirm the result of a previous classification; and
generating a final classification result including the confidence parameters that have been increased or decreased in value.
21. (Previously Presented) The vehicle information system as recited in claim 20,
further comprising:
interfaces connected to actuator devices on the vehicle.